Khadar.

43. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): (*a*) Do the Government discourage the use of *khadar* by their servants?

(*b*) If so, do they attach any political significance to *khadar*?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*) The question does not arise, in view of the answer to part (*a*).

Report of the Excise Committee.

44. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Excise Committee submitted their report, and, if so, what orders were passed on the same?

(*b*) Will they be pleased to place on the table copies of the report and the proceedings passed thereon?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) The report of the committee has not yet reached the Government.

(*b*) The suggestion made by the member will be considered on receipt of the report.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): When was the Excise Committee formed?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Under the orders issued on the 16th November, 1923.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Was there any time-limit for the submission of the report?

MR S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): What was the time-limit?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Two months.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): May I know whether any extension was granted?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): How often?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Extension was granted up to the 20th Edavam. The committee's report is now in circulation, and all the non-official members have not yet signed the report.

MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Was it not the intention of the Government to have received the report in time so as to modify their policy in regard to matters connected with the Excise administration?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Government would have very much wished that the Committee's report came in time.

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[Mr. A. Hoogewerf]

Mr. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Does not the fact that the report was not received in time mean that the affairs in the Excise Department are to continue as they are for the next two years during the biennial contract for 1100-11?

Mr. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): We do not know what the recommendations of the Excise Committee are going to be. So far as the contract is concerned, that has been concluded for the next biennium.

Mr. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Can the terms of the contract be altered in any way during the time of its currency?

Mr. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): No. But there are so many other matters in connection with the excise policy with reference to which we have to await the recommendations of the Excise Committee to see what improvements can be effected.

Mr. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Can shops be removed from one place to another after the contracts have been entered into?

Mr. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I claim notice of the question.

Mr. Van Ross's Case.

45. Mr. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): (*a*) Is it a fact that Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai, High Court Vakil, has been appointed as Public Prosecutor for the conduct of Mr. Van Ross's case?

(*b*) If the answer is in the affirmative, will they be pleased to state the reasons for appointing him as Public Prosecutor, when there are so many Sirkar Vakils in Trivandrum?

(*c*) Are they sanctioning daily allowance to Mr. Van Ross on the days he attends court in connection with this case?

Mr. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

(*b*) Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai was in charge of the prosecution of the case when it was pending before the District Magistrate, Trivandrum. When it was committed to the Sessions Court under the orders of the High Court, it was considered desirable to retain Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai himself for the conduct of the case in the Sessions Court.

(*c*) The answer is in the negative.

Mr. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): How many Sirkar Vakils and Assistant Sirkar Vakils are there in Trivandrum?

Mr. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There are two Sirkar Vakils attached to the District Court—one permanent and the other temporary.

Mr. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Altogether?

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